

4. PROJECT SUMMARY

County: Sierra

Applicant: Sierra County Land Trust

Project Title: Sierra Buttes Appraisal/Acquisitions Program (Volcano Lake Property)

PROJECT GOAL

The project consists of the acquisition of the 298 acre Hayes property which stretches between the North Fork of the Yuba River and Highway 49 and Volcano Lake and which is part of the Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin Special Treatment Area in Sierra County.

PROJECT SCOPE

The 298 acre Hayes property is part of the Sierra Buttes/ Gold Lakes Basin Special Treatment Area of Sierra County. The property overlooks Volcano Lake and will include preservation of approximately 2/3 mile of frontage on the North Fork of the Yuba River and Salmon Creek at their confluence.

The SNC project budget of \$777,200 is largely for acquisition (\$750,000) plus escrow costs and an additional 3% for Sierra County Land Trust administration. Most of the budget will be covered by SNC grant funds, with a portion of the administrative costs provided in kind by the Sierra County Land Trust. The proposal is for fee title acquisition. Via a lease, the seller will be permitted one final thinning timber harvest in the next 10 years regulated by the California Forest Practices Act and the California Department of Forestry with additional protective measures placed by the Sierra County Land Trust. Timber prices are low, appraised at \$39,000 on the site; it is possible that the the seller will not exercise this allowance.

The project is part of a larger project which entails the goal of eventual acquisition of most of the remaining private land in the Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin. The overall area is recognized as one of the most compelling features of the northern Sierra Nevada. It includes numerous glaciated lakes and ponds in an alpine environment at the headwaters of the North Fork of the Yuba River. To date, we have received a number of State grants, including 2 SNC grants, to assist with the overall acquisition program which have resulted in the purchase of 4 properties and a conservation easement on a fifth property. We are in negotiations on another 844 acres for which we have received funding also. The appraisal for this property was paid for with a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Proposition 84 grant in 2007.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

We have included letters of support from the Sierra County Board of Supervisors and the Sierra County based, High Sierra Rural Alliance.

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
State OK of appraisal	December 31, 2008
Sign grant contract	June 1, 2009
Order acknowledgement signs	July 1, 2009
THP lease agreement completed	July 15, 2009
Open escrow, bill State for acquisition cost	July 15, 2009
Post signage	Sept 15, 2009
Close escrow	Oct. 15, 2009
6 month progress report	Dec. 1, 2009
Project closeout and final report including Performance Measures accounting	June 1, 2010

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
	\$
Acquisition	\$750,000
Title report/insurance, escrow fees, transfer fees	\$3,100
Administration and consultant costs	\$17,900
Project Performance Measures	\$2,400
Signs	\$1,800
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$777,200